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SRP Federal Credit Union celebrates grand opening

By **HALEY HUGHES**

SRP Federal Credit Union celebrated the grand opening of its new administrative offices in North Augusta on the same day it marked its 50th anniversary.

On Sunday, the doors to the new campus opened to dozens of employees, customers, local business leaders and Congressional members who walked the 90,000-square-foot site and learned about the credit union's vision for the facility for its employees and customers.

"This building testifies to our dedication to Aiken County and the CSRA community," said Bruce Burns, chairman of SRP's board of directors.

The center, located off

Edgefield Road, has its own 6,000-square-foot branch on the ground floor. Offices for 150 of the credit union's 330 employees encompass the rest of the ground floor and all of the second floor. Housed in the building are the credit union's phone center, marketing department, recovery, Internet services, training and finance departments.

SRP chose the location, which is off I-20's Exit 5, because directors believe the area will become a significant economic hub and will impact the long-term development of the Highway 25 corridor north of I-20.

Among those present were U.S. Reps. Gresham Barrett

and Joe Wilson, Aiken County Council Chairman Ronnie Young, North Augusta Mayor Lark Jones and City Administrator Sam Bennett.

Each thanked SRP for its vision and its commitment to the community and customers. "To be in business for 50 years, you have got to be doing something right," Barrett said.

The Savannah River Plant Federal Credit Union was issued a state charter in 1960 after DuPont employees teamed up to establish the financial institution.

SRP now has about 96,000 members and more than \$530 million in assets.

President Ed Templeton said the new building has its own court, generated power and up-to-date technology which protects SRP's information as well as its customers' information.

More importantly, Templeton said, SRP owns the building outright.

"There is no TARP money in this building," he said, looking to Barrett and Wilson, which drew laughter from the crowd.



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Photo by Haley Hughes

SRP Federal Credit Union President Ed Templeton, back right, applauds for Eldon "Cork" Berry, Ruth Carmack and Vivian Tate, front, who are three of SRP's earliest employees of the company. At left are U.S. Reps. Gresham Barrett and Joe Wilson.